

**NORTH MARIN WATER DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
January 5, 2010**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Baker called the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of North Marin Water District to order at 7:30 p.m. at the District headquarters and the agenda was accepted as presented. Present were Directors Rick Fraites, Steve Petterle, Dennis Rodoni and John Schoonover. Also present were General Manager Chris DeGabriele, Secretary Renee Roberts, Auditor-Controller David Bentley and Chief Engineer Drew McIntyre.

District employees Robert Clark (Operations/Maintenance Superintendent), and Doug Moore (Construction/Maintenance Superintendent) were in the audience.

**MINUTES**

On motion of Director Schoonover, seconded by Director Petterle and unanimously carried the Board approved the minutes from the previous meeting as amended.

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. DeGabriele stated that he is setting up meetings with Marin County Supervisors Arnold and Kinsey to provide them with a status report on several District projects and activities including the Urban Water Management Plan 2010, North Bay Water Reuse Authority, work with CalTrans on the Sonoma-Marin Narrows aqueduct relocation and the County Watershed Plan. He stated that he also will talk to Supervisor Kinsey about the Gallagher Wells and Pipeline project. He said that the meeting with Supervisor Arnold is scheduled for January 13<sup>th</sup> and no date has yet been set to meet with Supervisor Kinsey.

**Water Supply Update**

Mr. DeGabriele reported on the water supply situation and advised that 2009 ended with Lake Mendocino storage slightly below 2008 and that Lake Sonoma is even lower than last year; however, there is plenty of water in Lake Sonoma to meet the region's water supply needs. He said that over seven inches of rain fell in Novato so far this year, but there has been only limited runoff into Stafford Lake. Mr. DeGabriele stated that this year does not look promising for water supply conditions, although that could quickly change.

**OPEN TIME**

President Baker asked if anyone in the audience wished to bring up an item not on the agenda and there was no response.

## **STAFF / DIRECTORS' REPORTS**

President Baker asked if staff or Directors wished to bring up an item not on the agenda . He reported that Glenn Young retired from the City of Novato's Department of Public Works and that his replacement is Jason Nutt from Santa Rosa.

## **ACTION CALENDAR**

### **APPROVE: NOVATO WATERSHED PROGRAM POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Mr. DeGabriele stated that the Board authorized participation in the Watershed Stewardship Program for Novato Creek Watershed in November 2008 and that a contribution for the program has been included in the 2009/2010 budget. He said that he met with Marin County staff in late December and was advised that the Novato Creek Watershed Program is planned to begin this month and that the District has an opportunity to appoint two Board members to the Policy Advisory Committee. He informed the Board that he will serve on the Financial and Operations Advisory Committee and that Drew McIntyre or his designee will serve on the Technical Advisory Committee. Mr. DeGabriele advised that the Policy Advisory Committee will meet first to determine the scope of the program. He said he is requesting the Board authorize the President of the Board to appoint two Directors to serve on the Policy Advisory Committee.

On motion of Director Schoonover and seconded by Director Rodoni, the Board authorized the President of the Board to appoint two members to the Novato Watershed Program Policy Advisory Committee.

### **APPROVE: CONSULTING SERVICES FOR FEASIBILITY STUDY TO REMODEL DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS FACILITIES**

Mr. Clark stated he is requesting Board authorization to enter into a consulting services agreement with Daniel Macdonald AIA Architects (DMAIA) to perform a feasibility study of improvements to the District headquarters facilities over the next few years. He said that DMAIA is familiar with the building and developed a renovation plan in 2006 that focused on bringing the headquarters building into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. He said that DMAIA and District staff will meet to discuss cost-effective ways to achieve much needed improvements to the buildings that will include expansion of the laboratory, ADA compliance, new roof and HVAC system. Mr. Clark said that recommendations by DMAIA will be available at the Board workshop scheduled for February 11, 2010.

Director Fraites asked if the architect will use the latest Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards. Mr. Clark replied that the plan will include the most energy-efficient technology.

Director Rodoni commented that constructing a second story on the existing building should be considered.

Director Baker asked if DMAIA was up-to-date on ADA compliance issues. Mr. Clark answered that DMAIA was hired in the past to perform ADA design work for the building and came up with a compliant design for the core of the building and they are familiar with the ADA issues in the headquarters building. Director Baker agreed with Director Rodoni on not limiting the size and height in the scope.

On motion of Director Petterle and seconded by Director Fraites, and unanimously carried, the Board authorized the General Manager to execute an agreement between Daniel Macdonald AIA Architects and the District for consulting services on a time and expense basis with a not-to-exceed limit of \$10,000.

**APPROVE: AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT A REVISED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATION FOR RECYCLED WATER PROJECT EXTENSION TO VALLEY MEMORIAL PARK (PH. 2A) AND EXTENSION TO BALANCE OF NORTH SERVICE AREA (PH. 2B)**

Mr. McIntyre stated that early last year, the Board authorized staff to submit an application to the State for the Recycled Water 8-inch main extension to Valley Memorial Park. He said that since that time, the North Bay Water Reuse Authority CEQA document has been approved which includes the entire Novato North, Central and South Service Areas and he is requesting Board approval to submit a revised financial assistance application to the state for the entire Novato North Service Area. He said the North Service Area would be in two phases, the first phase (2a) to Valley Memorial Park and the second phase (2b) to Fireman's Fund and Olive School athletic field. Mr. McIntyre advised that there would be replacement pages to include the entire North Service Area and the remainder of the application remains intact. He explained that the Board is being asked to authorize submittal of the revised financial application, approve a resolution authorizing the General Manager to act as the authorized representative and approve a second resolution dedicating a revenue source for repayment of any loan accepted by the District for this project.

On motion of Director Petterle, seconded by Director Fraites and unanimously carried the Board authorized submittal of Revised Financial Assistance Application; approved Resolution No. 10-01 entitled, "Application/Authorization Resolution" and approved Resolution No. 10-02 entitled, "Revenue Source Authorization Resolution."

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **SAFE DRINKING WATER: NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE/ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING GROUP REPORT**

Mr. DeGabriele reported that the New York Times published an article on chemicals in water supplies pursuant to data released by the Environmental Working Group and that he asked Pablo Ramudo (Water Quality Supervisor) to summarize the article and inform the Board on the issues presented in the article. He said that drinking water regulations have become more stringent over the years. He stated that testing is not done on every constituent but new constituents get added to the list from time to time after going through a regulatory process. Mr. DeGabriele noted that testing methodologies are becoming more sensitive and the challenge is how to remove newly detected constituents from the water supply once identified. He said he wanted to make the Board aware of the article and the Environmental Working Group's continued study and that Mr. Ramudo will provide the Board with more information when needed.

Director Fraites asked if arsenic was an identifiable constituent in the District's water supply and Mr. DeGabriele responded no, that arsenic is common in groundwater and even in West Marin's groundwater, arsenic is not evident.

Director Pettele asked if the American Water works Association (AWWA) prepares responses to articles like this. Mr. DeGabriele stated yes, the AWWA notifies water districts and provides talking points.

### **TAC MEETING – JANUARY 11, 2010**

Mr. DeGabriele presented the draft agenda for the first Technical Advisory Committee of 2010 and said there will be a discussion on water supply and that the TAC is working on engaging a consultant, Maddaus Water Management, to help with preparation of the Urban Water Management Plan. He said that the City of Santa Rosa will be the contracting entity and the contractors will sign a letter agreement outlining a cost arrangement to pay their share of the consulting fees.

Director Rodoni asked if the General Manager had any comment on the letter forwarded by Sonoma County Water Agency from the Law Office of Jack Silver regarding Notice of Violations and Intent to File Suit under the Endangered Species Act. Mr. DeGabriele said that the letter includes the Russian River and Gualala River Watersheds and focuses mostly on agricultural diversions. He said this may be a challenge to the Biological Opinion and that he does not know of any other implications at this point.

**NORTH BAY WATERSHED ASSOCIATION MEETING – JANUARY 8, 2010**

Mr. DeGabriele stated that the next meeting of the North Bay Watershed Association is January 8, 2010.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

The Board received the following miscellaneous information: Disbursements, Cost of Annual Sick Leave Buy-back Benefit , NWRA Election Results, Letter from Customer Re Reward for Water Saving Efforts, NMWD Lab Certification from DPH, Renewal of Oceana Marin Liability Insurance, Scrap Metal Receipts, Climate-Ready Water Utilities Among New USEPA Goals, Moving Beyond the “Privatization Wars” – A Call for Balance.

The Board received the following news articles: Notice of Changes to Regulations 15 and 17, Conservation lowered Russian River by half foot, Forum Speakers Urge Novato to Back Green Power, Sonoma County Hires New County Administrator, Former Planner to be Interim Santa Rosa City Manager and Salinity Notices.

**CLOSED SESSION 8:02**

President Baker adjourned the Board into closed session for Conference with Labor Negotiators – Review and provide instruction to designated representatives (Chris DeGabriele and David Bentley) regarding salaries, salary schedules and compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits for represented employees (NMWD Employee Association) in accordance with Government Code Section 54957.6.

**OPEN SESSION**

Upon returning to regular session at 8:14 p.m., President Baker stated that during the closed session the Board had discussed the issues and no reportable action had been taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Baker adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by

Renee Roberts  
District Secretary